

SENATE BILL NO. 378

BY SENATORS MORRELL AND DORSEY

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 46:1844(C)(3), relative to criminal procedure; to provide that a  
3 parent may refuse to allow their minor children to be interviewed by certain persons;  
4 to provide penalties for willful disregard of rights; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 46:1844(C)(3) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

7 §1844. Basic rights for victim and witnesses

8 \* \* \*

9 C. Interviewing the victim and witness of a crime.

10 \* \* \*

11 (3) The victim and the victim's family may refuse any requests for interviews  
12 with the attorney for the defendant or any employee or agent working for the  
13 attorney for the defendant. **If the victim is a minor, the parent or guardian of the**  
14 **victim may refuse to permit the minor to be interviewed by the attorney for the**  
15 **defendant or any employee or agent working for the attorney for the defendant.**  
16 Before any victim may be subpoenaed to testify on behalf of a defendant at any  
17 pretrial hearing, the defendant shall show good cause at a contradictory hearing with  
18 the district attorney why the subpoena should be issued. **Willful disregard of the**  
19 **rights of victims and witnesses as enumerated in this Paragraph may be**  
20 **punishable as contempt of court.**

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_